

## Crises in western intelligence agencies

As this Service has more than once pointed out, correct strategic appreciations cannot be made without correct intelligence information. Inaccurate or distorted intelligence can falsify strategic decisions and bring about situations of great danger.

At present, there is something seriously wrong with the western intelligence services—something perilously wrong—and this Service believes it necessary to report this without reserve.

The following very important report comes from one of our American observers who has 26 years' active experience in the intelligence field. He says that various western intelligence agencies are now at the lowest ebb of their efficiency and that the near future prospects appear even bleaker. At a time when both Russia and China are facing serious internal crises, we are failing to exploit this situation. Indeed, we are actually helping them to tighten their grip on their own people and satellites and we tolerate their operation of tools of destruction within the Free World.

Our observer reports:

### Gradual erosion of efficiency

A dangerous situation exists in many western intelligence agencies in the fields of strategy and security. This has led to numerous faulty decisions and policy trends by top-ranking Free World political leaders.

Many of these decisions and policy trends, based on incorrect intelligence interpretation or on "disinformation" or deception deliberately sown by the enemy, are now endangering the continued existence of Nato, Cento and Seato, as well as weakening the Free World's psychological will to resist further Soviet or Chinese inroads.

This situation is not a sudden development, but rather the result of gradual erosion of intelligence efficiency in the West due to improper intelligence leadership and guidance, the deliberate planting in strategic intelligence agencies of key personnel who are sympathetic to what they have been led to believe are the Soviet and Chinese objectives (disguised under the term "Communism").

### Patient planning

There has been a patient planting of long-range Communist penetration agents within western intelligence agencies, the crossing over of numerous western intelligence agents, and a carefully prepared deception plan of disinformation designed by the Soviet leadership and exercised by the KGB to guide western leaders into courses of action which are favourable to the Soviet Union.

The signing of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, massive shipments of Free World wheat to the Soviet economy and thus bolster up the dictatorship, the promotion of ever-

increasing friendship with Peking at the expense of long-term allies, the steady export of western industrial and technical know-how to the Soviet Union, the lack of American resolution and the protracted blundering in Vietnam and numerous other concessions to Moscow and Peking—these are a few indications of long-term intelligence failures and deficiencies which have now reached a crisis stage.

The following agency-by-agency examination will highlight some of the present problems.

### The CIA

Formed in 1947, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) inherited a number of personnel and policy weaknesses from its World War II counterpart, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). Communist penetration of the OSS is a matter of public and historical record. Many of its tainted personnel found a ready-made home in the new CIA.

In the early 1950s the CIA brought into its ranks many political refugees from the U.S. State Department and other areas who were forced or frightened out by anti-Communist investigations.

At the same time, Communists and Communist sympathisers were known to have penetrated American military intelligence and the Army's Counter-Intelligence Corps (CIC)—a matter of intimate knowledge reported at the time by your correspondent. A proposed investigation was called off.

### Dubious CIA personalities

Upon being appointed Director of the CIA, Allen Dulles allowed the introduction of such personalities as William Sloane Coffin (later Chaplain of Yale University and a New Left co-defendant with Dr. Benjamin Spock in the recent draft conspiracy trial), Thomas Braden, Cord Meyer, Jr., and numerous others with far-left orientations.

At that time, CIA Board of National Estimates member William Bundy and a number of other CIA officials contributed to the legal defence fund of Soviet agent Alger Hiss. Thomas Braden was appointed head of the CIA International Organisation Division and his assistant was Cord Meyer, Jr.

Braden believed in "fighting" Communism with Socialism and consequently the CIA financed a number of domestic and foreign far-left organisations to counter Moscow's international front groups.

In the long run this policy proved to be a dismal failure and was largely responsible for the emergence of the New Left upon the political scene. Long-standing Communist organisations were ignored by the CIA and many Socialist groups were strengthened by money.

### Cord Meyer

Present task in top CIA and DIA (Defence Intelligence Agency) circles indicates that Dr. Henry Kissinger, national security adviser to President Nixon, is urging the appointment of Cord Meyer, Jr., to replace CIA

Director Richard Helms upon the latter's requirement.

It may be of interest to *Intelligence Digest* readers to know that Meyer was a founder of the Communist-penetrated American Veterans' Committee (AVC) and later served as President of the one-world United World Federalists (UWF). Both the AVC and the UWF were subjects of lengthy FBI and other security agency investigations. Both were found to be Communist-penetrated and influenced. Your correspondent personally took part in some of these investigations.

### Many blunders

Upon the resignation of Thomas Braden from the CIA in 1954, Cord Meyer, Jr., took over the International Organisation Division and then became head of the CIA's Covert Action branch. He is now a top leader in the CIA and, if Dr. Kissinger has his way, he may replace Helms as CIA Director.

It must be pointed out that when Meyer departed from the UWF he highly recommended his close friend Alan Cranston to head that left-wing group. Cranston had earlier worked with Carlos A. Prato, listed by the New York police as "the pay-off man for the Soviet secret police". Prato was earlier expelled from Switzerland as a Comintern agent.<sup>1</sup>

With leadership of this kind it is small wonder that the CIA has been responsible for so many intelligence blunders and bad policy recommendations such as the Bay of Pigs, the murder of President Diem of South Vietnam, the present fiasco in Vietnam, and other major incidents.

It must be pointed out that many concerned officials are wondering whether these blunders have been by accident or by deliberate design or policy sabotage. The Soviet KGB (INU) has been carrying out a deliberate campaign over the years to penetrate various western intelligence agencies and has been highly successful. The CIA should have a thorough-going investigation by the FBI.

### The Federal Bureau of Investigation

Morale has fallen among the veteran members of the FBI since the appointment of Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray III to replace the late J. Edgar Hoover. Currently, Gray is conducting a major purge of the regional leaders of the FBI's 1,200 special agents.

Discipline has become lax. Hoover's personal file on security

<sup>1</sup>See the report "California: the cap of Intelligence Digest."

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